

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims -

Claims 1-7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Currently amended) A method of ~~improving a hybrid imparting water deficit tolerance to a crop plant by crossing a first transgenic crop plant with a second crop plant wherein pollen from said first transgenic crop plant~~ contains recombinant DNA which expresses a transcription factor ~~having amino acids with at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said method further comprises a screening process for identification of the water deficit tolerance trait comprising the consensus amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:11~~.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein ~~one of said crops~~ ~~said second crop plant~~ comprises recombinant DNA which expresses a protein that confers at least one of an herbicide resistance trait or a pest resistance trait.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) A hybrid corn seed which is the progeny of

(a) a transgenic female ancestor corn plant having in its genome a recombinant DNA which expresses a transcription factor ~~having at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said transcription factor confers water deficit tolerance to said plant; and comprising the consensus amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:11;~~

(b) a transgenic male ancestor corn plant having in its genome a recombinant DNA which confers at least one of an herbicide resistance trait or a pest resistance trait.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) The hybrid corn seed of claim 10 wherein said transgenic female ancestor corn plant further has in its genome recombinant DNA which confers herbicide resistance.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) The hybrid corn seed of claim 10 wherein said transgenic male ancestor corn plant has in its genome recombinant DNA which confers both herbicide resistance and ~~insect pest~~ resistance.

Claim 13. (Previously presented) The hybrid corn seed of claim 11 having resistance to at least one herbicide selected from the group consisting of a glyphosate herbicide, a phosphinothrinicin herbicide, an oxynil herbicide, an imidazolinone herbicide, a dinitroaniline herbicide, a pyridine herbicide, a sulfonylurea herbicide, a bialaphos herbicide, a sulfonamide herbicide and a gluphosinate herbicide.

Claim 14. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein said transcription factor has amino acids with at least 80% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 15. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein said transcription factor has amino acids with at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 16. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein said transcription factor has amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 17. (New) The hybrid corn seed of claim 10 wherein said transcription factor has at least 80% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 18. (New) The hybrid corn seed of claim 10 wherein said transcription factor has at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 19. (New) The method of claim 10 wherein said transcription factor comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 20. (New) A hybrid corn seed which is the progeny of

(c) a transgenic corn plant having in its genome a recombinant DNA which expresses a transcription factor having at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said transcription factor confers water deficit tolerance to said plant; and

(d) a transgenic corn plant having in its genome a recombinant DNA which confers at least one of an herbicide resistance trait or a pest resistance trait.

Claim 21. (New) The hybrid corn seed of claim 20 wherein said transcription factor has at least 80% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 22. (New) The hybrid corn seed of claim 20 wherein said transcription factor has at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 23. (New) Hybrid transgenic corn seed for production of a water deficit tolerant and herbicide resistant corn crop, wherein said seed comprises a transcription factor having at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein said transcription factor confers water deficit tolerance to said crop.

Claim 24. (New) Hybrid transgenic corn seed for production of a water deficit tolerant and pest resistant corn crop, wherein said seed comprises a transcription factor having at least 90% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein said transcription factor confers water deficit tolerance to said crop.